



Lele Makou No Na Puali **LIGHTNING ATTACK** ⚡

1-25th Newsletter ❖ An FRG Publication for Soldiers & Spouses

YOUR FRG NEWSLETTER

The purpose of your 1-25 Family Readiness Group newsletter is to pass along family support news and information related to the 1-25 mission. Your ideas and comments are always welcome. Please contact the Editor if you have an idea for an article or would like to contribute an article to the Lightning Attack newsletter.

The 1-25 Newsletter

PURPOSE: This newsletter is intended to provide the soldiers and family members of the 1-25th Aviation Regiment with general information, unit training and family support news. The information presented in this newsletter is true and correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of printing. The contents, views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

The Commander's Corner

ALOHA AND LIGHTNING ATTACK!

AS I sat down to write my part of the newsletter this month, I labored over the reality that it would be an extremely difficult task. Not because there is little to write home about, but instead I am faced with the opposite problem of having too much to write about. And, as my wife can attest to, I don't like to write. As I started this letter (over the course of several days), I debated on keeping it simple and telling you about quality of life improvements on the Camp and talking about some of the many great accomplishments of your Soldiers, which there are many. I certainly will touch on those, but found myself after several drafts feeling like I had only scratched the surface. What I really want is for you to be able to see your Soldiers through my eyes. Because through my eyes, I see what each of you already know. Your sons and daughters, husbands and wives are an exceptional collection of great people.

Although there are few typical days in Iraq, a close approximation of mine follows. My day always starts with a shake of my cot from the morning Battle Captain and a quick synopsis of what has happened while I was down. Instead of a cup of coffee, the Battle Captain (before I can fully focus my eyes) gives me a rapid-fire update on the status of ongoing missions, current aircraft maintenance status and any issues. The Battle Captains track the battle from the command post and assemble the masses of information required so I can make timely and informed decisions. The two great Americans I trust with that important job are CPT Easterby and CPT Davis. They have a huge responsibility, day in and day out. After my Battle Captain "alarm clock" goes off, I walk a few steps to the command post to start my morning routine.

I start the day by pouring through intelligence reports (the equivalent of my morning paper) and mission debriefs prepared by CPT Bird and the S2 section of 1LT Blanchard, SSG Balfour, SPC Tyler and PFC Lattero. CPT Bird is a big time runner, winning a recent 5 kilometer race at Baghdad International prior to our movement to Camp Cooke. Although intelligence can be a pretty dry subject, the crew does a great job of helping me see the battlefield. I then see the Communications Officer, 1LT Garrett, who is always working at a fevered pitch, giving me a five minute dissertation on the status of the unit's communications and computer equipment...it is usually so technical it hurts my head. Day in and day out, he and his small section of Soldiers do a great job keeping us talking and Deniz could rival Bill Gates in computer savvy. After that, I usually get a quick update with the battalion's two "Iron Majors," Majors Stauss and Arata to discuss what critical

—CONTINUED ON PAGE 2—



operational, administrative and logistical tasks need to be tackled for the day. I then had out for my morning half-mile trek to the flight line and company areas to visit your Soldiers. On the way, I typically run into CSM Marks, who is out checking on Soldiers and making sure the Camp is running smoothly. I can always count on the CSM to be out taking care of Soldiers.

My first stop along the route is usually the flight line, where without fail the line company crew chiefs as well as the Desperado Soldiers from the Armament, Electronics and Avionics Platoon are hard at work recovering aircraft from the previous night's missions and prepping for the coming missions for the day. Although it is still relatively early, the heat of the sun is already bringing the airfield ramp temperature into the low 90s, with temps above 110 on the way by mid afternoon. Without fail, I am greeted by the aircraft crew chiefs (usually covered in grease and oil) that proudly tell me about how they fixed some particularly difficult problem on the aircraft and they assure me they will be ready for missions. Today I ran across SPC Cruze and SSG Slattery from the Renadages who were completing some scheduled maintenance on their aircraft and had solved a nagging vibration problem on another one of the aircraft. After some idle talk and a couple of questions, I head for the line company command post where the aircrews are preparing for the day's multitude of missions.

The Line Company Command Post is the hub of activity for the battalion's pilots. This is the location where they plan, prepare and brief for missions. On the days that I am flying, my journey usually stops there for mission prep with CW3 Mansoor, who just celebrated his

birthday this week, so the standing joke is that he and I have the oldest cockpit in the battalion, unless CW5 Fancher is flying with anyone except one of the "youngsters." Howard is our "seasoned," aviator who doesn't act a day over 30, and who will easily eclipse an incredible 10,000 hours of accident and incident free flight hours this year.

Today I'm not on the mission schedule, so I sit through and listen to a detailed mission brief by CPT Watkins, to his teams who are preparing to execute multiple reconnaissance and close combat attack missions in our area of operations. As I look among the crowd of Ghost rider aviators, I see CW2 Ray attentively taking notes and feel the presence of CW3 Sharp. CW3 Sharp and CW2 Ray were both wounded in action just prior to the Easter weekend, during a heroic mission where they responded to a ground element in heavy enemy contact and under intense fire. Their heroism and courage under heavy enemy fire saved the lives of many on the ground, one of many courageous acts by our aircrews over the previous months. CW3 Sharp is now back at home with his family and is recovering well after an arduous battery of surgeries on his arm. We look forward to getting the "Old Silverback" back in the saddle. CW2 Ray has fully recovered from his wounds and is now back flying. I vividly remember the day after he was wounded talking to his attending physician at the Forward Surgical Team. The Doc told me that Mr. Ray was becoming a real pain because he was obstinately insisting upon getting back to the unit so he could get back into the aircraft, a true selfless hero and just an example of the many in this battalion. Following the brief, I slip out of the tent and

take a short walk to the Headquarters Company Command Post.

1SG Catigano and CPT Walters are busy discussing continued force protection upgrades in the life support area (Army speak for where everybody sleeps), as well as the plan to move into our new living quarters, the much awaited trailers. After we talk the finer points of sand bagging, I leave with confidence knowing I have two true professionals at the helm of the company with the most diverse mission in the battalion. On my way out the door, I pass by the Internet café. I stop and talk with some of the off duty night shift soldiers who are sending e-mails to their Mothers and/or Wives for Mother's Day, another reminder to me of the sacrifices that are being made at home.

My next stop is the motor pool, which is one of my favorite places to visit Soldiers. Although the Battalion Motor Section is small, they are responsible for keeping all the vehicles in the battalion running. These Soldiers epitomize the quiet professionals behind the scenes, who can accomplish any task, no matter how difficult. As I walk through the collection of maintenance tents, I find SSG Grimshaw and WO1 Turner talking with SGT Sonnenberg and PFC Sneed on why one of our HMMWVs won't start. SGT Sonnenberg is a great NCO attached to us from C/25 AVN who is never without a smile and is a hands on NCO who is always covered from head to toe with dirt and grease. PFC Sneed is an up and coming mechanic in the battalion.

Unfortunately, one of the most difficult tasks I have had to do during this deployment involved a casualty notification to one of these great Soldiers in the Motor pool. SPC Ojeda, our motor pool clerk, lost her

husband this week. He was an Engineer in another battalion also deployed from Hawaii. The Ojeda's were one of many dual military couples simultaneously deployed in the battalion. I would ask that each of you continue to keep her family in your thoughts and prayers. Our heartfelt condolences go out to her and her family. The battalion and especially the small tightly knit collection of Soldiers in the motor pool feel a great loss.

As I am leaving the Motor Pool, I stop by the Battalion Supply tent where SGT Contreras and PFC Dorsey are busy getting ready to make a water and supply delivery to the companies. It's amazing how much water our soldiers can go through in a day. SGT Contreras' normal occupation is as a Food Service Specialist in our Dining Facility. Since we have contracted dining facilities over here, SGT C, as affectionately known by all, is instead now running the Battalion Supply Section. Although SGT C is working outside of her normal MOS (Army talk for Job Description) she has turned out to be the best "old school supply scrounger" I have come across. If it is in Iraq, she will find it and get it to who needs it, always delivered with a smile and an encouraging word. From supply I make short trip past our newly refurbished and heavily fortified sleep areas to the aircraft maintenance hangar. As I walk by, I see 1SG Rodriguez and 1SG Clark admiring their most recent "acquisition," a new shower trailer. As with any good 1SG, these two are always out trying to find stuff to make quality of life better for all of the battalion's Soldiers.

The hangar is a converted former warehouse and is where most of the heavy lifting for the battalion's aviation maintenance

occurs. My first stop is in Production Control tent to talk with CW4 Phillips and his sidekick, SFC Willis. They are the "brain trust" of the battalion Aviation Maintenance Program, charged with keeping our aircraft in the air. SFC Willis is a 20-year veteran who was scheduled to retire this year. Instead, he is selflessly serving his Nation, ensuring the battalion's aircrews have the very best maintained aircraft to fly into combat daily. Prior to the deployment, CW4 Phillips was also scheduled to leave the battalion to PCS to the Bell Helicopter Plant as the Army's Maintenance Test Pilot Rep., a hand selected position and a well-deserved "cush" job after serving nearly 20 years on the line. Instead, he also is here selflessly serving. This team, with the help of all of the crew chiefs and other maintainers are the driving force behind the battalion flying the most flight hours of any battalion since the start of the conflict last year. This is truly a phenomenal accomplishment and speaks volumes to the hard work and dedication of our maintainers and aviators.

As I walk down the hangar, I bump into CW3 Glenn and CW3 Pratt, two of our Technical Warrant Officers. These two are inseparable and both are technical experts who keep our Avionics running. Good aerial scouts have to be able to move, shoot and communicate. They Jason and their Soldiers are the driving force behind that effort. Under dusty and hot conditions, they perform daily "surgery" on myriad of complex electronic assemblies that cost millions of dollars. On the civilian market, technicians of their caliber would make hundreds of thousands of dollars, instead they are here serving their Nation and leading Soldiers.

I next run into SPC Gomiller

and PFC Threefingers, two of our aircraft engine mechanics. When we first arrived in country, these two Soldiers were faced with the daunting task of maintaining all of our aircraft engines and both were relatively new Soldiers to the Army. These are complex turbine engines that require a lot of tender loving care. Due the number of hours we are flying, these two Soldiers have a tremendous workload. I survey the aircraft that they have "disassembled" and marvel at the fact that several hours from now the multitude of pieces they have carefully laid out will be back as one and fully functional. SPC Gomiller proudly tells me that he can now do in three hours what it used to take him a full day to do, four months of "college" and he has earned his PhD.

My last stop before heading back to the battalion command post is a visit to the Forward Arming and Refuel Point. The FARP, as we call it, is where we load the aircraft with ammunition and get gas. It is a hot and noisy place that is much like a ballet of hovering aircraft and running Soldiers. The III/V platoon, under the leadership of 1LT Campbell and newly promoted SSG Oliva, is a collection of outstanding Soldiers who truly define working for a living. Twenty-four hours a day, no matter the weather conditions, these outstanding Soldiers ensure that we can quickly get to battlefield with the fuel and ammunition we need. A testament of their hard work and dedication has come in the form of numerous auditory comments from other units. I consistently am told by other commanders that our FARP has the most hustle of any FARP they have seen. Not only are they appreciated by other units, our Aviators marvel at their motivation and dedication. After

only a few days in country, CW3 South stopped me on the flight line after a flight and remarked how impressed he was with the FARP Soldiers. With a surprised look on his face he told me that he had never seen FARP Soldiers run from fueling point to fueling point, not just once, but all day long. For those of you who know Mr. South know he is not easily impressed, so I knew then as I know now, the III/V Platoon is a special bunch, a real "combat multiplier" as we like to say.

I then head back to the Battalion Command Post to monitor the battle and do some planning with the operations officer for future operations. As I walk through the outer door, I hear the clear and distinct, elfish voice of one of our young radio operators, SPC Casey, requesting a situation report from one of the crews flying, who weighs in at probably less than 90 lbs soaking wet, is a Martial Arts Master. When on the radio, the crews have comfort in knowing SPC Casey will relay clear and accurate information, no matter how stressful the situation.

I make a quick left turn and head into my corner office where I am greeted by SPC Patterson, a great soldier, who works in the Personnel Section and serves as one of the Battalion Mail Clerks. He is carefully placing a package from home in my chair, always a welcome addition to any day. I ask him how the mail is flowing and with a big grin he gives me a detailed count of the boxes and letters that arrived in the battalion. It will be an even better day, there was a flood of letters and boxes and nothing lifts your Soldiers morale like mail from home. I quickly open the box to discover a newly taken picture of my children who have obviously grown in the last four months much like the Soldiers in this Battalion, another reminder.

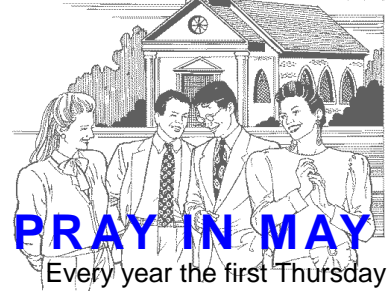
Although this a lengthy letter, again I feel it is still inadequate. I touched on only a few of your great Soldiers. There are numerous other stories and accounts no different than those above. As I close, I recall that I usually end my monthly letter by thanking the families and loved ones for their sacrifices and hard work, but in retrospect I should have all along thanked you for what you truly have given to our Nation, your sons and daughters, husbands and wives, a truly exceptional collection of great people.

LIGHTNING ATTACK!

Strike 06



Chaplain's Column



in May is set aside for us as Americans to pray that God's purposes would be fulfilled in every area of our society. It starts with us as individuals and branches out to those closest to us, and ultimately impacts the world. Prayer is not only for a day in May, but everyday! It is vital to your relationship with God. It has been said that seven days without prayer makes one weak! If you want to be spiritually strong, pray everyday!

My wife is a constant source of encouragement to me, and a real prayer warrior. We continually pray for each other and those around us where we are. Along with packages I get from her she always writes me a note. One of those notes read,

"...when you live in the presence of prayer (the deep communion with the Lord), you will not be polluted with all the negative thoughts, but your environment will be dominated by the sunshine of the Holy Spirit that flows into your mind and heart. I live that way. Connect with God strongly; commune with Him-then you can turn the tough time into a blessing in faith."

Whatever is going on in your world—no matter what it is—invite the Spirit of God to help you. That's His ministry to you as a believer. He takes your concerns and brings them brings them in alignment with His will (Romans 8:27). With that knowledge you really can turn your tough time in a blessing as you pray in May...and everyday!

Chaplain Ferris

COMPANY NEWS

HEADHUNTERS

Greetings and Aloha!

A lot has happened since our last newsletter. We've moved from our warehouse home to a set of recently renovated buildings. Again, we've spent a lot of time building up sandbag walls and securing the area to ensure we remain safe. Looking ahead, we'll eventually move our Soldiers into living quarters that provide more personal space, but only after we ensure that the new quarters will provide adequate protection for them. We have continued to improve the quality of life for everyone by relocating shower facilities closer to our billets and installing a small internet café for the soldiers to use. A phone center has also been located closer to our living area so that it is easier for Soldiers to make phone calls back to their families.

We've also conducted quite a few promotions within the company in April and May. Promotions recognize the outstanding effort that our Soldiers put forth each and every day. These soldiers are truly deserving of the rank and I am proud of each of them. Congratulations are due to SSG Oliva, SGT Martin, SPC Forbes, SPC Gibson, SPC Humes, SPC Morowsky, SPC Piatkowski, SPC Speck, PFC Kuartei, PFC Morin, PFC Moser, PFC Rains, and PFC Rodriguez.

As always, the performance of the Headhunters is beyond reproach. Each day I am impressed by the tremendous skill and dedication demonstrated by our Soldiers. I've said it many times and it still rings true every day - nothing in this battalion happens without them. I am proud to be serving with every one of them, and you should be proud of what they are accomplishing here. Their hard work keeps this company and this battalion moving forward.

On a very sad note, our Headhunter family has been dealt a terrible blow by this conflict. One of our terrific young soldiers, SPC Ojeda lost her husband on 2 May. She has returned home and is with her family. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers in these difficult times. Specifically to the family members and friends of HHC—your support is what keeps this company focused and capable. There is no doubt that you are working as hard as we are to make this successful.

I am as proud of the Headhunter family at home as I am of the Headhunters here. Your support through mail, care packages, phone conversations, emails, thoughts, and prayers shows your concern and caring for all of our well being. I cannot put into words how much those things help us each and every day and mean so much to us. One day soon our family will be together with our loved ones—I truly look forward to that day.

HEADHUNTERS 7

DESPERADOS

Aloha Desperado Families,

Life continues to improve day-by-day. The lines for the chow halls and laundry have decreased to a reasonable number. It was a big event when laundry turn-around time went from 5 to 3 days. The battalion has its own internet café and is open 24-hours. A new phone center has opened in our immediate area and the food has improved a little as well. We went without cheese for awhile and many people now realize how much they really like cheese. Overall, the camp continues to improve daily.

Delta Company has moved from the large warehouse to a long building that now has air conditioners and stays relatively cool. More bunk beds have arrived so we are able to get a little more personal space for each Soldier. We should be moving into the trailers in the near future after the proper force protection measures are prepared.

We had several promotions: PV2 Prew and PV2 Threefingers were promoted to Private First Class. PFC Hernandez, PFC Burgreen, PFC Walker and PFC Casey Walker were promoted to Specialist. We look forward to watching these soldiers meet the full potential of their new rank.

Thank you for your continued support. The sheet with written messages was a huge hit and is hung in the hangar for all to enjoy. Continue to send your soldier letters, emails and packages, they are the mainstay of morale here and truly help the situation 200%.

We are all living quite well and taking great care of each other. Safety and mission completion are always in the forefront of our soldier's actions, but your continued support is the pillar upon which everything is built. Thank you again for being there for the Desperados.

DESPERADOS 6

RENEGADES

May finds the Regulators in our 4th month of operations in Iraq. As the temperatures rise, the Regulators remain constant. The soldiers and officers of the Company continue to execute missions in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom with the same professionalism and excellence that they have through out the deployment. They have contributed greatly to the success of the Battalion as a whole, and brought great credit upon themselves with their actions to date. The success of the company has been built upon the consistently skilled actions of our pilots, the quiet professionalism of our NCOs, and the hard work of the enlisted soldiers. Everyone in the Company has had the opportunity to create success in their own way, and have seized each and every opportunity. You can all be justifiably proud of all the Renegade soldiers.

On a lighter note, the Company continues to be blessed with good health and your consistent support. The gentle reminders of life back home continue to be greatly appreciated, and are often a pleasurable punctuation to a long day or night of work. All members of the Company enjoyed the banner you prepared and sent forward via the FRG. You would be amazed how grown men will marvel, and compare the hand prints of their loved ones; and afterward jealously discuss the best location to hang their latest treasure.

As we look forward to the upcoming month, everyone has a longing for loved ones missed, but also operates with a sense of pride and purpose. We are confident in the validity of their mission, and buoyed by the support of everyone back home. Until next month, Lightning Attack.

REGULATOR 6



Have a concern?

The 1-25 AVN

Rear Detachment

Commander

stands ready

to assistance you.

GHOSTRIDERS

Aloha and Lightning Attack from the Warriors of the Pacific.

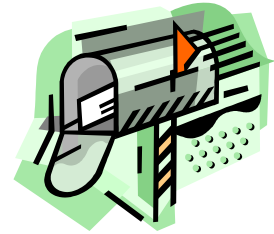
The Ghostriders continue to do a fantastic job helping to fight the Global War on Terrorism here in Iraq. Our pilots continue to do what they do best, finding the enemy. The crew chiefs, the backbone of this company, continue to give us the combat power we need on a daily basis to assist our ground brethren from the 1st Cavalry Division in helping to build a safe and secure environment here in Iraq.

Unfortunately, due to a hostile fire incident, we have had a thinning of the Ghostriders' ranks. Two of our soldiers were wounded in action over the skies of Baghdad. I would like to let you know that CW3 Sharp is healing nicely in Texas, and CW2 Ray is already flying again helping to contribute as we try to maintain stability here in Iraq. We keep Mr. Sharp in our thoughts and prayers on a daily basis hoping that there are no speed bumps in his recovery.

I cannot express in words how proud I am of the men of this company. They continue to do the right thing, always giving 110%. It is an honor for me to serve with them. To all the spouses and family members, thank you so much for all of your support.

HOUKA!
LIGHTNING ATTACK!

KEEP THOSE LETTERS GOING!



OUTLAWS

Aloha from Iraq!

The Outlaw pilots and crew chiefs continue to work very hard to accomplish our many missions in support of ground troops in Baghdad. The Company has received laudatory comments from ground forces to the effect that our presence during operations gives them comfort. We really are making a difference, and your sacrifices are appreciated. Housing and conditions continue to improve on camp. While bunk beds are normally something reserved for the kids, some Outlaws now sleep five feet off the ground to create more space in our living quarters. We'll find out soon who the sleepwalkers are.

Since the last newsletter the Outlaw family has added two new pilots from Fort Rucker. Please welcome CW2 Beck and WO1 Anderson and his wife.

Heartfelt congratulations go to newly promoted CW4 Bowen, CW4 Wilson and to CW3 Brennan. They've promised a big promotion party when we return, so don't let them forget.

Many thanks for all of the care packages; they brighten our days. Your support is a constant source of encouragement and is greatly appreciated.

OUTLAW 6



HAWAII TRANSITION SURVEY USAG HI DCA

- ★ For parents with children in Hawaii schools (private, public and even home schooled), please complete an online study. This is a survey to study how our military kids are transitioning to and from schools. Please go to <<www.militarychild.org>>. The database and webpage for the School Transition Survey is linked to the MCEC site. It's located under the Guard and Reserve picture on the left side. If you have friends who have transitioned from Hawaii, please spread the word to them too.

OEF/OIF FRG SOFTBALL Leisure Activities Director (808) 656-0110

- ★ Want to play on an FRG OEF/OIF Softball League? An Intramural Women's Softball Program has started with four teams in the league. There is an interest in adding teams to this league in the same division and/or adding a separate OEF/OIF division. At the end of the league, the two divisions could have a play off. Want to play? Call Bruce Irvine at 655-0856 if you are interested in forming a team or want to join a team.

www.mwrarmyhawaii.com



808.656.0110

NEW BLUE STAR CARD DISCOUNTS:

- ★ 10% discount for rentals at the Outdoor Rec Equipment Center
- ★ 10% discount when purchasing a monthly pool pass (single or family) at any Army pool.
- ★ **WOW-WALK OFF THE WAIT:** TUE & THU, 9 am. Meet at Tropics (Bldg. 589) for a fun, friendly walk—strollers welcome. Earn a limited edition WOW T-shirt after 8 walks! Join in, to support each other and help the time pass faster!
- ★ **CARE PACKAGES MATERIALS AVAILABLE:** Each 3rd Sunday of the month from 12-4 pm. Supplies will be provided to wrap your packages at the Tropics! Mailing is not included.
- ★ **CHESS CLUB:** Every Monday, 5-8:30 pm, Tropics, 655-0101.
- ★ **AT EASE- AUTOMOTIVE TRAINING, ENSURING AUTO SAFETY FOR EVERYONE:** 2nd Friday of each month, 9-10 am, SB Auto Craft Center. Learn how to properly check your auto's fluid levels and things to check prior to driving your auto. Registration required by prior Sunday—special sessions will be arranged for groups of four to six. \$5 fee. 655-2271.
- ★ **AUTOMOTIVE HELP HOT LINE AND ASSISTANCE:** 655-2271. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 11:30 am–7pm, Saturday and Sunday, 9 am–4 pm. Closed Monday, Tuesday and Holidays. Please leave a message for assistance. 25% off towing Services. Transportation provided to and from Tropics while your vehicle is being serviced so you can relax in comfort while you wait for the following auto craft services: oil changes, tire rotation/balance/repair, and transmission service. Call 655-9368 for details.
- ★ **HEALTH & FITNESS CENTER:** FREE Saturday entry to include participation in yoga and step classes.
- ★ **VIDEO TAPE AT THE LIBRARY:** Deploying sponsors may come to SGT Yano Library to video tape themselves reading stories that children can view later. Now available in DVD! 655-8002.
- ★ **MOVIES, MOMMY & ME:** Every Friday, 6 pm, Tropics, free popcorn!
- ★ **KID'S BLOCK CARTOON TIME:** Saturday, 8:30-10:30, Tropics.
- ★ **CELEBRATE MILITARY SPOUSES DAY** throughout the month of May, at the Schofield Health & Fitness Center. FREE Saturday entry to include classes and a free body composition tests for all Military spouses. Call 655-8007
- ★ **CRAFT CLASSES:** At the Tropics, Pre-registration required at Schofield Crafts Shop, 655-4202
 - * May 16, 11am, Mommy & Me, \$8/Mom, \$5/child, ceramics
 - * May 26, 6 pm, No Sew Pillow, make your own decorator pillow with a Patriotic aloha print fabric, \$12.
- ★ **FUN TIME REVUE,** June 2nd and 3rd. KIDS: Don't miss Twisting Fun by "COSMO the Balloon Wizard;" "Pretend Circus" and Magic by "Adam the Great." Showtime: June 2nd, 2 pm at the Tropics on

AAFES GIFTS FROM THE HOMEFRONT

Gifts From the Homefront program is an AAFES' support programs which provides needed items to Soldiers. The AAFES website has the link to this program (www.aafes.com) at "Gifts From the Homefront" that allows any American (not just authorized shoppers) to purchase gift certificates that go to Soldiers, to include a link to give certificates to Soldiers who are hospitalized. These certificates are distributed through the Fisher House. AAFES has personal shoppers who will take the gift certificates and buy whatever the Soldiers wants or needs. AAFES has also just been given permission by OSD to sell prepaid telephone calling cards to any American who wants to send them to the troops. This program should be unveiled on the AAFES website in the next few weeks. □

The Miscellaneous Minutes

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In accordance with directives issued by the Department of Defense, the 25th Infantry Division is implementing the appropriate measures to safeguard our soldiers, civilians, and family members. Updated information can be found on HACNTV2 and on the 25th Infantry Division website:

www.25idl.army.mil/

This Family Readiness Group

(FRG) Newsletter contains official

information and complies with the

provisions of AR 360-81 and

AR 25-51 for the dissemination of

FRG Newsletters.



LIGHTNING ATTACK

1ST BATTALION, 25TH AVIATION NEWSLETTER
25TH INFANTRY DIVISION
HAWAII

MAY 2004